

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SummitRacing.com NHRA Nationals
Las Vegas Saturday Recap

TEAM HAMMONDS QUALIFIES SEVENTH FOR ELIMINATION SUNDAY

(LAS VEGAS, Apr. 4, 2009) - - Sticking to the game plan of qualifying in the top half for Sunday's competition, Team Hammonds qualified seventh going into tomorrow's competition at SummitRacing.com NHRA Nationals.

Today weather permitted two qualifying session to improve on their pole position, but ended up dropping one spot in field. Team Hammonds ran the fastest 60-ft time (0.993 seconds) in the right lane in the first session, completing the run with an e.t. of 6.706 seconds against a repeat of last weekend's elimination round match-up opponent Jason Line (6.697 seconds).

Crew Chief Tomi Laine was please with the No. 20 Race for Achievement Chevy Cobalt's performance. He tried to tweak some things with the car so that it would have a good showing overall. Confident they would stay in the top half of the qualifying field, Laine decided to try a new set-up for tomorrow for the second run, producing an elapsed time of 6.736 seconds against Kurt Johnson (6.715 seconds).

"I knew already that we were pretty safe and the track got a little slower due to the track getting hotter and air getting warmer," explains Laine, "so, that was the right time to try a new set-up for tomorrow. It really did not work, and now I know what I need to do for the first round."

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"The team has done a great job so far and we are looking forward to going out there tomorrow and going all the way. We worked on the clutch linkage all weekend and should be adjusted fine for Tom. Las Vegas has been a good for me for several years. I went to the finals last year, both races."

Laine goes on to say, "Larry Morgan is a great racer and a friend of mine! I really, really like him! He is going to be a tough guy to beat. I cannot wait for Tom to let the clutch out and see what happens."

The second pair in the first round, Team Hammonds will have lane choice and will face number 10 qualifier Larry Morgan.

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About Tom Hammonds and Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC (THE)

Racing since the age of 16, Chevrolet backed Tom Hammonds made a triumphant return to full-time drag racing at the Gatornationals Gainesville Raceway in March 2007. He is the only African American owner (Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC) and driver of a race team on the NHRA circuit. Previous owner of a Chevrolet dealership, Hammonds was drafted 9th overall in the 1989 NBA draft and enjoyed his career with Washington, Denver, Charlotte, and Minnesota, where he completed his career. Before his illustrious NBA career, he played college basketball at Georgia Tech, where his jersey was retired for being the fourth all time leading scorer and received a bachelors of science in business management. A native of Crestview, Fla., he was inducted into the All Sports Association Hall of Fame of Fort Walton Beach, Fla. in March 2007.

Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC (THE) is located in Holt, Fla. and was formed in 2005. THE takes pride in promoting high performance and safety in the sport of drag racing. Housing such programs as Tom Hammonds Engines, a program specifically for performance drivers to rent custom built engines, and Tom Hammonds Race for Achievement, a school program dedicated to revving the engines of education through student achievement, the company's mission is to make an impact on the sport of drag racing. THE is the only African American owned and driven team on the NHRA circuit. For more information, visit www.tomhammondsracing.com.